CLASSIFICATION

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STATE

ARMY

AIR

Izgrev.

REORGANIZE ARTISAN WORK; HIT POOR QUALITY OF SHOES

HOLD CONGRESS OF ARTISAN COOPERATIVES -- Sofia, Izgrev, 15 Feb 51

The Constituent Congress of the TPZK (General Union of Artisan Cooperatives) which opened in Sofia on 12 February 1951, revealed progress but also certain failures in artisan work throughout the country. About 70,000 artisans have joined the union so far, and the work is set up in 1,100 autonomous cooperatives and 1,200 artisan units attached to the vsestranni (mixed) cooperatives. The black market in artisan goods has been eliminated, service operations have been expanded, and the quality of work

However, serious failures still prevail, and the public is not supplied with prompt, courteous, and high-quality services. There is waste and local materials are not adequately utilized. New work methods, competitive and shock work, and rationalization are not being implemented. Generally speaking, the work has not been conducted on Marxist-Leninist principles, and poor vigilance has permitted class enemies to infiltrate many of the cooperatives, mainly in Sofia. The principal reason for these shortcomings lies in the failure to follow Soviet methods closely.

The resolutions passed at the congress emphasize that the cooperatives should not be regarded as an independent branch of the economy, but as a complementary part of the general economic organization. The main objectives of artisan cooperatives should be to supply the public with speedy repair services at reasonable prices, and to manufacture goods from local materials and waste products. The quality of services, and the quality and assortment of goods should be substantially improved. Artisans still operating outside the organization should be enrolled and hostile groups in the cooperatives eliminated. Young personnel should be selected for supervisory posts and Marxist-Leninist education made accessible to all the members.

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NOTES SHORTAGES, POOR QUALITY -- Sofia, Izgrev, 24 Dec 50

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The following advertisement appeared in the above paper: \mathcal{T}

Who is responsible for the poor quality of shoes?

Who is responsible for the shortage of children's shoes?

Who is responsible for the manufacture of old-fashioned shoes?

You will find the answer in the Soviet play "Who Is Responsible," by G. Mdivani, currently shown at the Trudov Front Theater, starring the well-known actor Petko Atanasov, winner of the Dimitrov Award.

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